



Los Angeles County Commission for Women

B-50 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1455 ofc./ (213) 633-5102 fax / laccw@bos.lacounty.gov e-mail



NOMINATION APPLICATION 29th ANNUAL WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The nomination application is to include a biography of the nominee. Copies of this form can be downloaded from the Commission's website at <http://laccw.lacounty.gov>

NOMINEE INFORMATION:

NAME: Esther Na_____

EMPLOYER: Self employed

ADDRESS: 4708 W. Adams BLVD_____

JOB TITLE: First President, The Well Mission

LOS ANGELES, CA ZIP:90016-2902

WORK ADDRESS: 4708 West Adams,

HOME PHONE: __213-595-7073_____

CITY: LOS ANGELES STATE:CA ZIP:90016-2902

CELL PHONE: __213-819-3300_____

WORK PHONE: 213-819-3300

EMAIL:

FAX: none _____

WELL3300@GMAIL.COM_____

CRITERIA

Nominees must have worked on behalf of women's issues; made significant contributions to women's equality issues, and served as a role model for women. Previous members of the Commission may be nominated for their current professions and other activities relating to advocacy for women.

Previous recipients are not eligible for this award. (See list at: <http://laccw.lacounty.gov>)

Applications for nominations within these categories may be received from the community and Commissioners. If applying in more than one category, a separate application is required.

NOMINATION CATEGORY (to be considered, choose only one appropriate choice)

Education ____	Health ____	The Arts / Media ____	Business / Labor <u>x</u> ____	Law / Public Safety ____
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NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY: DECEMBER 20, 2013

NOMINATOR: Sr. Mary Sean Hodges

DATE: 20 December 2013 _____

JOB TITLE: Director

Archdiocese of LA, Office of Restorative Justice

2049 S. Santa Fe Ave

Los Angeles, CA 90021-2919

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PHONE: Phone: (213) 438-4820 ext. 23

PROCESS OF SELECTION

The Women of the Year Awards recognizes up to ten (10) women who are outstanding role models for over **4 million** women in the County of Los Angeles. District Awardees are selected by each Los Angeles County Supervisor and Community At-Large Awardees are selected by the Commission for Women in the following five categories: **Education, Health, Media/Arts, Business/Labor, Law/Public Safety**. All nominees will be rated on a scale of 1-4 for each of the following areas below. The highest overall score will receive the award nomination.

NOMINEE: Esther NA CATEGORY: Business & Labor

Please describe your Nominees participation in the following areas in relation to the category chosen:

- 1. My nominee has worked on behalf of women's issues by:** *Esther Na has personally embodied strong women everywhere who offer themselves in tireless service to others through a decade of service in the urban complexities of the Los Angeles homeless populace. Her efforts know no boundaries of race, sex, religion, education, or economic condition.*
- 2. My nominee has made significant contributions to women's equality issues by:** *Esther Na has personally been on the street with assistance to the homeless since 2003. Her vision for her organization, "The Wellness Mission" is to provide and support the homeless on the streets of Los Angeles. Her work has encompassed three significant areas: feeding of the homeless, establishing a thrift shop to support and provide work opportunities for the homeless, and the establishment of a congregation specifically aimed at providing religious and social ministry to the homeless.*
- 3. My nominee has served as a role model for women by:** *Esther Na is an immigrant to the United States after having initially been a refugee as a small girl when her family fled North Korea at the beginning of the Korean War. She knows firsthand the difficulties that families and women face in times of economic and social deprivation. After her graduation from an American seminary, Esther Na worked as volunteer in a Los Angeles Convalescent Hospital for 7 years; she was certified as a Licensed Foster Family care home and provided housing for 15 children (male and female) during their teen years (all are now adult and doing well). In 2003 she initiated a daily breakfast distribution of donated donuts and hot drink on the streets of LA, a program that she personally continued daily for over 10 years, rising daily before sunup in order to accomplish her goals. While the majority of single homeless are men, she welcomes women as well as children to be the recipients of her charitable work.*
- 4. How has your nominee demonstrated an attitude of empowerment, positively influenced and helped women to forge ahead:** *Esther Na does not tell her own story but as a woman of faith and love, she works actively and energetically for the benefit of others. She is the very essence of a woman with a vision who has lifted herself from early refugee status to an immigrant striving for education and the opportunity to serve where the need is greatest. Esther Na, an ordained Presbyterian clergy person, is not now nor never has been employed by a congregation but has undertaken her mission development of her own volition, resources, and energy.*

Reason(s) for Nomination, additional comments or more specifics: *According to the Los Angeles Almanac, 33-50% of homeless are female while males make up 75% of the single population; 23-40% are families, typically headed by a female. The complexities of homelessness in Los Angeles include unemployment, mental and physical health issues, sexual abuse, family disfunction, inadequate housing, disabilities, and the inability to collect governmental benefits. Esther Na has been nationally recognized for her work by President Obama in 2013, the City Council of Los Angeles, and Tom La Bonge (Council Member District 4th), and LAPD and UDLA in 2013.*

Completed forms may be submitted to the Commission for Women at laccw@bos.lacounty.gov or
Mailed to:

**Los Angeles County Commission for Women
500 West Temple Street
Room B-50
Los Angeles, CA 90012**